

IRS Launches New Online Tool to Help Taxpayers Resolve Tax Debt

The Internal Revenue Service today announced a new online tool to help taxpayers understand and resolve tax debt.

The Tax Debt Help tool provides individuals and businesses with a simple, accessible way to explore payment options and identify next steps based on their situation. The tool is part of the IRS's broader effort to expand digital services and make it easier for taxpayers to meet their obligations.

"This new Tax Debt Help tool reflects the agency's commitment to making tax compliance clearer, more accessible, and less intimidating for taxpayers," said IRS Chief Executive Officer Frank J. Bisignano.

"By guiding taxpayers through their options to pay with simple, interactive questions, we're helping them understand the paths available and take confident next steps. The deployment of this new tool shows the transformation underway at the IRS and the progress the agency has already made to deliver more user-friendly, digital-first services to taxpayers."

Helping taxpayers find the right option

The Tax Debt Help tool walks users through a series of straightforward questions about their financial situation and tax debt. Based on taxpayer responses, the tool will guide them to potential payment

and resolution options available through the IRS.

These options may include payment plans, temporary delay of collections, or an offer in compromise for those who qualify. By presenting options in a clear, structured format, the tool helps taxpayers make informed decisions about how to resolve their tax debt.

Designed for simplicity and privacy

The tool is designed to be easy to use and accessible to a wide range of taxpayers. It does not require specialized knowledge and can be used at any time.

To protect taxpayer privacy, the tool

does not require taxpayers to enter personally identifiable information. Taxpayers can explore available options without providing details such as Social Security numbers, names, or addresses.

By expanding self-service options,

the IRS is helping taxpayers resolve issues faster while reducing the need for phone calls or in-person visits.

Additional resources

Taxpayers can find more information using the following resources:

- Get help with tax debt
- Apply online for a payment plan
- Publication 6103, Get Help with Tax Debt
- Information on payment plans
- Online account for individuals
- Business Tax Account



The month of April has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in April 1926.

- The United States House of Representatives votes to impeach District Court Judge George W. English on April 4. Judge English, who was accused of abuse of powers and violation of bankruptcy laws, ultimately resigns on November 4.
- Residents of Watts, California, vote to become part of the city of Los Angeles on April 2. Residents vote 1,338 to 535 in favor of consolidation.
- Warplanes of Manchurian warlord Zhang Zuolin begin bombing portions of Beijing on April 3. The areas targeted by the bombings are areas of the city under the control of the Guominjun paramilitary group.
- The national basketball team of Italy plays its first game on April 4. The team earns a 23-17 victory over the French national team.
- The first recorded death of a person caused by a cassowary

is noted in Mossman, Queensland, Australia on April 6. Phillip McClean, the 16-year-old victim, was attacked by the large, flightless bird while he and his brother were trying to kill it.

- Italian Premier Benito Mussolini is shot by Violet Gibson in Rome on April 7. Mussolini is unharmed, and Gibson is ultimately released without charges. However, Gibson is sent to a psychiatric hospital in England, where she remains until her death in 1956.
- The German subsidiary of the Ford Motor Company assembles its first vehicle, a Model T, on April 8.
- Twenty-seven sailors are killed when the United States oil tanker the Gulf of Venezuela explodes as the ship sits in harbor at Port Arthur, Texas, on April 11.
- Walter Johnson of the Washington Senators defeats Eddie Rommel of the Philadelphia Athletics on Opening Day on April 13. The game lasts 15 innings and ends with a score of 1-0.
- Australian politician Frederick McDonald disappears while on his

way to a meeting with Jack Lang, the Premier of New South Wales, on April 15. McDonald, who had recently lost a re-election bid to the Australian House of Representatives, challenged the result of that election and asked that his opponent, Thomas Ley, be removed from office.

- McDonald's disappearance is never solved, and Ley is later convicted of the murder of John Mudie in 1947.
- Canadian distance runner Johnny Miles wins the Boston Marathon on April 19. The marathon marked the first time Miles had competed in a race of more than 10 miles.
- Elizabeth II is born to the Duchess of York and the Duke of York on April 21 in London. Elizabeth grows up to serve as Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a reign that begins in 1952 and lasts until her death in 2022.
- Germany and the Soviet Union sign the Treaty of Berlin on April 24. Each country pledges neutrality in the event of attack on the other by a third party within the ensuing half decade.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR CITY OFFICIALS TO OBTAIN TRAINING RELATED TO CITY GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, the General Assembly passed House Bill 119 in the 2011 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly and the bill was signed by the Governor of the Commonwealth to become effective on June 8, 2011;

WHEREAS, House Bill 119 authorizes the city governments of Kentucky to adopt training incentive programs to encourage city officials to obtain education and training related to the operation of city government;

WHEREAS, the City of Hartford, Kentucky recognizes and values the importance of its city official remaining informed and educated on topics related to city governments and the powers, duties, and responsibilities of city officials; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hartford, Kentucky acknowledges that educated, informed, and well-trained city officials will provide a direct public benefit by fostering a deeper understanding of laws, regulations, and by promoting exploration of diversified practices, programs, and delivery of services to the citizens of the City of Hartford, Kentucky,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARTFORD, KENTUCKY:

SECTION 1: Definitions

As used in this ordinance, the terms below shall have the following meaning:

1. "Training unit" means fifteen (15) clock hours of attendance or participation in qualifying courses during a calendar year.
2. "Excess hours" means credit hours earned beyond fifteen (15) during a single calendar year.
3. "Administrator" shall mean the Kentucky League of Cities City Officials Training Center.
4. "Qualifying course" shall mean any training, seminar, educational or learning event that provides instruction or information that is relevant to the duties and functions of city government and city officials and that has been approved by the administrator.

SECTION 2: Adoption of a City Officials Training Program: Application

In accordance with House Bill 119 of the 2011 General Assembly, as codified in KRS Chapter 64, the City of Hartford, Kentucky hereby adopts and establishes a City Officials Training Program to make available incentive payments as specified by this ordinance to the elected city officials, including the mayor, and all members of the City Council for obtaining education and training as required under the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 3: Incentive payment amount: required training participation

1. Each city official eligible for participation in the City Officials Training Program shall receive training incentive payments of \$500.00 for completion of each training unit during his or her continuous service as a city official within the city. The city official shall not be awarded more than one (1) training unit per calendar year.
2. The training incentive payment paid to the city official shall be subject to the multiplier earned by the officer. Each eligible officer shall earn one (1) training incentive multiplier per calendar year of continuous service for a maximum of four (4) training incentive multipliers.
3. The failure of a city official to earn at least one (1) training unit during any calendar year shall receive no training incentive payment for that calendar year and shall have his or her training incentive multiplier reset to one (1) for the following year.
4. Any city official earning excess hours during a calendar year shall be permitted to carry forward a maximum of ten (10) hours to apply to the earning of a training unit in the following calendar year.
5. Training incentive payments shall be made to a city official presenting proof of completion of a training unit for a calendar year within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the calendar year.

Section 4: Policy regarding payment or reimbursement for training course

Subject to the constraints and the appropriations established by the city's annual budget, the city shall consider paying the cost of attendance or participation in advance to a city official's attendance and participation in the qualifying course if proper application is made to the mayor. Alternatively, and subject to the constraints and appropriations established by the city's annual budget, the city shall consider reimbursing a city official for the cost of attendance or participation in a qualifying course upon presentation of proof to the mayor that the official has received credit for the course.

SECTION 5: Administration of City Officials Training Program

1. The City Officials Training Program for the City of Hartford shall be administered by the Kentucky League of Cities City Officials Training Center, which shall be responsible for approving courses as qualifying under the terms of this section, shall maintain records of attendance and participation, and shall notify the city when a city official earns a training unit and the number of training units earned by a city official during his or her continuous service as a city official within the city.
2. The administrator shall evaluate and approve courses as qualifying for credit based on the relation of the course to the operation of city government. In addition to other courses which may be approved as qualifying courses by the administrator, courses that provide instruction on the statutory duties of cities and city officials, intergovernmental relationships, municipal finance and budgeting, municipal taxation, ethics, open records, open meetings, economic development, or municipal police powers shall be approved as qualifying courses under this section. The administrator shall require the submission of the course or conference agenda, curriculum, name of the provider, and other course materials to determine whether a course should be approved as a qualifying course.
3. A city official shall submit proof of attendance or participation in a qualifying course to the administrator. A city official shall submit the course name, date, location, name of the instructor or provider, and sufficient proof of attendance or participation in a qualifying course that is not, in the administrator's opinion, substantially different from another course the city official attended or participated in during the same calendar year.
4. The administrator shall maintain records that reflect each of the courses and hours completed by the city official and shall provide it to each city official upon request. The administrator shall, within thirty (30) days of the close of the calendar year, provide written or electronic certification to each participating city official of completed courses and hours, and shall, if applicable, certify the completion of a training unit and total number of accumulated training units. Upon receipt, a city official shall present a copy of the certification of the completion of the training unit and the total accumulated training units to the city in order to receive his or her training incentive payments.

SECTION 6: Status of incentive payments

1. Training incentive payments do not constitute wages under KRS Chapter 337, creditable compensation under the County Employees Retirement System under KRS Chapter 78, or compensation for the purposes of setting maximum compensation or modification of compensation under KRS Chapter 83A, and may be repeated or modified by the city at any time.
2. The training incentive payment amount established in this section shall not be adjusted by any index reporting changes to consumer prices or any other method to account for inflation.

SECTION 7: Severability

Each section and each provision of each section of this ordinance is severable, and if any provision, section, paragraph, sentence or part thereof, or the application thereof to any person licensee, class or group, is held by a court of law to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such holding shall not affect or impair the remainder of this ordinance, it being the legislative intent to ordain and enact each provision, section, paragraph, sentence and part thereof, separately and independently of the rest.

INTRODUCED AND PUBLICLY READ ON FIRST READING, this the 26th day of February, 2025.

PUBLICLY READ AND FINALLY APPROVED ON SECOND READING, this the 26th day of March, 2025.

APPROVED:

CITY OF HARTFORD, KENTUCKY

Beau Wright
Beau Wright, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Martin
Lisa Martin, City Clerk

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